

October 1, 2003. Under current law, such authorization applies to debt accrued before September 1, 1985.

The governments of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the State of Hawaii, have provided health, educational, and other social services to the citizens of these Freely Associated States in good faith with the expectation that such incurred costs would be reimbursed by the United States Government. We have before us an opportunity to address this most important issue within the context of the reauthorization of the Compacts of Free Association. It is my sincere desire to work with my colleagues to ensure that the provisions proposed by this bill are seriously considered in the reauthorization process.

REMOVAL OF NAME AS A
COSPONSOR OF H.R. 20

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 20. While the bill's stated purpose is to authorize appropriations for state water revolving funds (which I fully support), I regret that it has been transformed into an attempt to expand the Davis-Bacon Act.

I believe that adding Davis-Bacon to this important debate is entirely inappropriate. The fact that the two debates have become inextricably linked is irresponsible and unfair to Americans who rely on Congress to act to ensure their water is clean and safe.

In my state of California, the reauthorization of this program would translate into over \$1 billion in additional funds to address the state's clean water needs. As such, I remain steadfast in my commitment to the passage of a water infrastructure bill this year.

INTRODUCING THE GREAT LAKES
RESTORATION FINANCING ACT
OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today along with Congressman REYNOLDS and a bipartisan coalition of members from the Great Lakes states, I am proud to introduce the Great Lakes Restoration Financing Act of 2003.

Holding one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water supply and nine-tenths of the U.S. supply, the Great Lakes and their connecting channels form the largest freshwater system on Earth. Thirty years after passage of the U.S. Clean Water Act, Great Lakes water quality has improved, but the Lakes remain unhealthy for wildlife and people and there is clear and convincing evidence that the ecosystem is deteriorating.

For example, bacteria from sewage overflows led to a record 897 beach closings in 2002 on Lake Michigan alone. Additionally, twenty percent of the Great Lakes shoreline

contains polluted sediments. Further, state and local authorities have issued more than 1,500 fish consumption advisories in the Great Lakes.

Clearly in crisis, the Great Lakes are the source of drinking water for 28 million people. The Everglades, the source of freshwater for much of the state of Florida, faced a similar threat in the mid-1990's. Congress responded with the creation of a massive restoration effort. Building on that successful national model, the Great Lakes Restoration Fund would establish a funding source for Lakes restoration and revitalization based upon President Bush's Great Lakes plan.

Following the President's "Great Lakes Strategy 2002" as its guide, the Great Lakes Restoration Fund would provide states with significant funds for Lakes restoration. Specifically, the Fund would ensure the economic and ecologic sustainability of the Lakes, clean up toxic hot spots, combat invasive species, control pollution from urban and agricultural runoff, restore and conserve wetlands and critical coastal habitat, and increase public education of Great Lakes issues.

The United States is blessed with tremendous natural resources. The Great Lakes undoubtedly rank among the most treasured of these resources, but if this body allows them to deteriorate further—if we can no longer drink the water, and no longer swim at our beaches—we will have failed American families.

Mr. Speaker, we refuse to let this happen. This bill will begin to heal the damage done over the years. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support us in this important endeavor by cosponsoring the Great Lakes Restoration Financing Act of 2003.

TRIBUTE TO NOEL HARLAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a dedicated educator from my district. Noel Harlan of Alamosa, Colorado is a role model for his students both in and out of the classroom. Noel, a teacher and bus driver in the Alamosa School District, is this year's recipient of the Driver of the Year Award given by the Colorado State Pupil Transportation Association. I join with my colleagues in offering him our congratulations.

Noel began working for the Alamosa school district in 1965 and soon found that working for a small school provided him the opportunity to expand his duties. While primarily a science teacher, he often taught other subjects, such as English Literature and Archaeology. Noel enjoyed working with children, so when a position as the school's bus driver became available he seized the opportunity. The new job provided Noel with extra income, as well as increased interaction with his students. Noel excelled behind the wheel, driving over 750,000 miles without an accident. With enthusiasm and diligence, Noel helped the morning commute become an enjoyable, safe ride.

Mr. Speaker, Noel Harlan's commitment to the students of Alamosa is certainly deserving

of praise before this body of Congress and this nation. I am proud knowing that Noel has had an impact on so many of today's youth and I wish him many more years of safe driving and teaching. Thank you, Noel, for the service that you have provided to our community.

RECOGNIZING DR. KRISHNA
REDDY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great community leader and President of the Indian American Friendship Council, Dr. Krishna Reddy, for his commitment to the advancement of the U.S.-India relationship and the Indian-American community.

Dr. Reddy has a remarkable record of advocating on behalf of the Indian-American community. As Founder and President of the Indian American Friendship Council, Dr. Reddy has demonstrated his tremendous dedication to improving U.S.-India relations. His expertise and service has undoubtedly led to increased dialogue and solidarity between these two democracies.

Dr. Reddy's commitment to engaging the Indian-American community in the political process and ensuring that Indian-Americans have a voice in our government is also commendable. His organized efforts have helped educate Congress about issues important to India and the Indian-American community and fostered relationships between Members of Congress and Indian-Americans nationwide.

It is a great honor to pay tribute to Dr. Krishna Reddy and the Indian American Friendship Council.

TRIBUTE TO GENE RIZZI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Gene Rizzi and thank him for his many contributions to Pueblo, Colorado. Gene has spent over 33 years helping grow and improve Lake Pueblo and its facilities as a member of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. As he plans his retirement, I am honored to recognize Gene and his many contributions before this body of Congress today.

Gene began his service at Lake Pueblo in 1977 when the lake first opened. As Assistant Park Manager, he has helped improve the facilities at the lake, including the creation of a new swimming beach and a variety of campgrounds. His hard work has helped make Lake Pueblo a fun, safe place to enjoy the outdoors. His co-workers note that Gene will do whatever it takes to make the park work most effectively. While at Lake Pueblo, Gene has done everything from rescuing boats to fighting fires. His hard work and dedication has made Gene one of the many exemplary employees of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, one whose impact will forever show in the operation of Lake Pueblo.

July 14, 2003

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

E1477

Mr. Speaker, Gene Rizzi has spent his life giving back to others by wholeheartedly embracing public service. I am happy knowing that after his 33 years of service in recreation, Gene will finally be able to relax and enjoy retirement himself. Thank you, Gene, for your hard work and dedication to Pueblo. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.